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ATTENTION: Examiner D.J. Isabella
COMPANY: USPTO
FACSIMILE NO.: (571) 273-8300
FROM: Brian S. Tomko
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DATE: August 4, 2005

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Re: 09/982,502
Our Ref.: HRT0279

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Docket No. HRT-0279

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Stephen W. Boyd et al.
Serial No. : 09/982,502 Art Unit : 3738
Filed : October 18, 2001 Examiner : D. Isabella
Title : Devices and Methods for Port-Access Multivessel Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed to the
United States Patent & Trademark Office at (571) 273-8300 on August 4, 2005

/Brian S. Tomko/

Brian S. Tomko
(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 4, 2005, please consider the following:

A list of the claims begins on page 2 of this document.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this document.